

6-3545/a

13 MAY 1961

Honorable Henry Dworshak
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Dworshak:

STAT This is in response to your letter regarding a report
by that the USSR has a nuclear powered aircraft.

We have previously studied this and other reports of the same type and determined that the characteristics attributed to this nuclear aircraft are far beyond the technical capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries. The reported cruising speed of 2500 miles per hour would mean that the air entering the aircraft would be heated by compression to about 1100° F. Further, heating of this air to provide thrust for propulsion would raise the temperature far beyond the temperature limits of the nuclear engine's structural material.

If further information is desired, please let us know.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

46 R
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	DD/I - 354 Admin	RAG/	5/9/61
3	IG - 231 Admin <i>(out of town until Wed.)</i>	LBN	20 May
2	DDCI - 203 Admin <i>W</i>		
4	DCI - 221 Admin		
5			
6			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: <p style="text-align: center;">Letter to be hand carried by Legislative Counsel after signature by DCI.</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
OGC/LC - 221 East			8 May 61
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STAT

Approved For Release 2003/05/05 : CIA-RDP80B01676R000700200051-9

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4 MAY 1961

BRIEF FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Letter from Senator Henry Dworshak, dated 1 May 1961

1. Enclosed for your signature is a reply to a letter from Senator Dworshak concerning a report that the USSR has a nuclear powered aircraft.

2. A letter from Senator Dworshak requested a report concerning this development described in a UPI dispatch printed in the Idaho newspapers. The attached reply states that the flight characteristics of the reported nuclear aircraft are beyond the technical capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries and that the STAT originator of this report, is a well-known fabricator of sensational intelligence reports.

3. Recommend that you sign the attached reply.

STAT
HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Enclosure: Letter to Senator Henry Dworshak

STAT
commonly. [redacted] has long been judged to be a perennial
fabricator of sensational reports.

Sincerely,

Allen T. Dulles
Director

ORIGINATED BY:

[redacted]

for Chief, Nuclear Energy Division/OSI

47 May 1961 STAT
Date

COPIES/REMARKS:

[redacted]

/relevant Director/Scientific Intelligence

8 MAY 1961

Date

Rewritten by John S. Warner

8 May 1961

Legislative Counsel

Date

[redacted]

Deputy Director/Intelligence

8 MAY 1961

Date

OSI/NED/NSA [redacted] jag [redacted]
Distribution:

(4 May 1961)

Orig. & 1 - addressee
1 - DCI
1 - AD/CI

1 - Leg. Counsel
1 - Exec. Sec.
2 - AD/SI

4 - NED/OSI

4 May 1961 STAT
Date

*** May 1961**
Date

Deputy Director/Intelligence

8 MAY 1961

STAT
STAT

- 1 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - ER
- 1 - DD/I
- 1 - IG
- 2 - AD/SE
- 2 - NEO/CSI
- 1 - Legislative Counsel w/basic

Senatorial Henry Byrd
United States Senate
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Senator Byrd:

This is in response to your letter regarding a report
by [] that the USSR has a nuclear powered air-
craft.

We have previously studied this and other reports of
the same type and determined that the characteristics attri-
buted to this nuclear aircraft are far beyond the technical
capabilities of the Soviet aircraft and nuclear industries.
For example, if the plane flew at the reported maximum speed
of 3500 miles per hour, the air entering the aircraft would
be heated by compression to about 2100° F. Thus the tempera-
ture of the air at the intake of the nuclear engine would
be at the maximum temperature limit of the engine's struc-
tural materials and further heating for propulsion could not
be introduced without causing a melt-down of the engine.

This report by [] is one of the many that he
has distributed concerning various subjects to the intelligence

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Revised